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UNCLE SAM'S FOREST RANGERS - EPISODE NO. 516

**SUSTAINED**

PROGRAM TITLE

ADVERTISER

AGENCY

WRITER

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 17, 1942

DAY &amp; DATE

11:30 - 12:00 NOON

TIME

**PRODUCTION NOTES**CHARACTERSCAST

BESS - KATHERINE CARD

MARY - LUCILE HUSTING

JERRY - JOHN HARKIN

JIM - HARVEY HAYS

SOUNDREMARKS

MASTER Attached as broadcast:

This copy represents as accurately as possible the program. All alterations made in dramatic and/or musical content are contained herein.

Orchestra Leader

Production Director

Announcer

Agency Producer or Announcer

BLUE · NETWORK · COMPANY



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REMARKS

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RECEIVED  
MILITARY  
WORK  
COMBANK

1. ANNOUNCER: Uncle Sam's Forest Rangers!

2. MUSIC: THEME

3. ANNOUNCER: This Christmas season, some of us may have to do without  
4. that usual well-loved feature of Yuletide - the Christmas  
5. tree. While farmers have been able to supply some local  
6. markets, most of the Christmas tree cutters of past seasons  
7. are now engaged in operations of a different sort - cutting  
8. wood for war, to help beat our enemies, and wood for fuel,  
9. to help keep us warm this winter. Those of us who are  
10. unable to have a tree will at least have the satisfaction  
11. of knowing that our woodsmen are directing heavier blows  
12. against the Axis than they would be if they were harvesting  
13. Christmas trees. Then too, those of us who are fortunate  
14. enough to have a tree will no doubt be more eager to share  
15. it with our neighbors - in the fine spirit of sharing that  
16. is more and more becoming an inspiring and integral part of  
17. our way of life.... And now, to the Pine Cone Ranger Station  
18. where we find Ranger Jim Robbins and his assistant  
19. Jerry Quick getting an earful of the latest doings of the  
20. Winding Creek Ladies Club. The proud reporters are Jim's  
21. wife, Bess, and the local schoolma'am, Mary Halloway. Here  
22. they are....

23. BESS: (FADING IN) Yes, Jim, our last meeting of the year, and it  
24. was the nicest meeting the Ladies Club has held in months.  
25.





1. MARY: And we accomplished more than usual, don't you think,  
 2. Mrs. Robbins?  
 3. BESS: Well, in a way, yes. But then we didn't have quite the same  
 4. problems as at other pre-Christmas meetings, don't you  
 5. think, Mary?  
 6. MARY: That's true.  
 7. JERRY: (SARCASTIC) It'd be interesting to know what these two  
 8. ladies are talking about, don't you think, Jim?  
 9. JIM: Uh huh. Seems like we ain't much use to this two-way  
 10. conversation.  
 11. BESS: (LAUGHING) I'm sorry, Jim. I guess Mary and I forgot that  
 12. you and Jerry weren't at the meeting.  
 13. JERRY: You called it a pre-Christmas meeting. What's that all about,  
 14. Mrs. Robbins?  
 15. BESS: Well, you see, Jerry, Just about this time every year, the  
 16. Ladies Club holds a meeting to decide what we women of  
 17. the county can do to help bring happiness to everyone at  
 18. Christmas time.  
 19. JERRY: A noble idea, I calls it.  
 20. MARY: In past years, we've made up loads of Christmas baskets and  
 21. gift packages, and oh, things like that.  
 22. JIM: No Christmas baskets this year, Mary?  
 23. MARY: That's what Mrs. Robbins and I were talking about. We're  
 24. only going to have to make up a few baskets and gift  
 25. packages this year.







1. JERRY: I get it. In spite of the war....and in spite of some of  
2. the grumbling and the like we hear, folks in Winding Creek  
3. are better off this Christmas than before, huh?

4. BESS: Exactly, Jerry. More of our people are at work, and more  
5. of them have the really necessary things of life than at  
6. other Christmas times....and of course we didn't feel  
7. justified in making up a lot of baskets with just frills  
8. and fancy things. There'll be a few food packages of course  
9. but not anywhere near the number we've made up other years.

10. MARY: Then there's the problem of our community Christmas tree,  
11. too. You know the Ladies Club has always taken care of that.  
12. We certainly settled that question in a hurry, didn't we,  
13. Mrs. Robbins?

14. BESS: Yes, Mary, and quite well, I think.

15. JERRY: You mean there won't be any community tree this year?

16. BESS: No, Jerry. We'll have a tree all right. But we're going to  
17. use that pine tree that's growing alongside the station,  
18. instead of one that'd have to be cut and hauled with precious  
19. tires and gasoline from the forest. The location isn't as  
20. good as our usual spot in the middle of the Square but that's  
21. no great sacrifice.

22. JERRY: Holy smokes. I just thought of something. Aren't community  
23. trees supposed to be out for the duration? Did you think  
24. of that?

25. BESS: Yes, Jerry. But that applies to lighted trees. We won't  
use the lights this year; we'll decorate the tree just for  
daytime.





1. JERRY: Golly, you ladies think of everything, don't you? What  
2. about it, Jim?
3. MARY: Yes, what do you think of the Christmas program of our  
4. Ladies Club, Mr. Robbins? You've been rather quiet the  
5. past few minutes.
6. JIM: Well, I was just sittin' here, thinkin' --- and well,  
7. wondering if you or Bess were going to say anything about  
8. one little section that needs brightening up this Christmas  
9. more than all the rest of the county put together in my  
10. opinion.
11. BESS: What do you mean, Jim?
12. JIM: You said a while back, Bess, that the idea was to bring  
13. happiness to everyone around.
14. BESS: Yes, but....
15. JIM: I've been thinking about the folks up there in the Beaver  
16. Creek settlement, Bess. You and Mary haven't mentioned  
17. them in your plans particularly.
18. MARY: Beaver Creek settlement?
19. JIM: Yes, Mary, the Beaver Creek folks. Sittin' here, listening  
20. to you and Bess, I kinda got the impression you've been  
21. congratulating yourselves on all the work you don't have  
22. to do this season as compared with other years, and ..
23. JERRY: Whoa, Jim... I don't agree with you. I think the Ladies  
24. Club is doing a swell job. What's Beaver Creek got to do  
25. with....





1. BESS: Wait a minute, Jerry. Jim is right. Go on, Jim, please.  
 2. We did forget about the Beaver Creek folks, but maybe it's  
 3. not too late.  
 4. JIM: Thanks, Bess. Maybe I was too sarcastic, talking about you  
 5. and Mary congratulating yourselves on getting out of work.  
 6. BESS: I suppose it did sound that way, Jim. But about Beaver Creek  
 7. MARY: Yes, Mr. Robbins. Why did you say Beaver Creek is more  
 8. important than all the rest of the county?  
 9. JIM: For several reasons, Mary. First of all, those twenty  
 10. or more families living up there in the Beaver Creek cut-over  
 11. are worse off than any other folks I know of in the county.  
 12. JERRY: That's true, all right. You oughta see some of the poor  
 13. broken-down shacks they live in up there.  
 14. MARY: But some of the men folks are working in war plants now,  
 15. I thought.  
 16. JIM: A few of 'em, Mary. And most of the other able-bodied men  
 17. up at Beaver Creek have gone to war. The women and kids  
 18. are managing as best they can.  
 19. BESS: They're kind of a proud lot up there, though. I know we  
 20. took some things up there once before, but they seemed to  
 21. sort of resent it. Maybe that's why nobody mentioned  
 22. Beaver Creek this year.  
 23.  
 24.  
 25.





JERRY: How do you know they'll be so bad off this year?

JIM: Well, I spend a day at the settlement last week, Jerry. Things aren't going any too well up there in Beaver Creek.

MARY: I'm sure the Ladies Club'll be glad to make up as many Christmas baskets as they'll need, Mr. Robbins.

JIM: That's not what I had in mind, Mary. I s'pect they could use some extra food, all right, but what I was thinking about...

BESS: What you're thinking about has to do with their way of life and their spirit instead of just material things, like food. Is that it, Jim?

JIM: Yeah, Bess. That's it, exactly. Up there at Beaver Creek we've got as good an example of what mis-use of land does to folks as anyone could find. You all know what happened up there at Beaver Creek. During the last war, they came in there, a hundred families or more, to log the timber...there was a big demand for wood then, just like now. It was one of the best timber areas in the country, but nobody looked ahead then. Cut 'er down. Cut every tree that'll make a two-by-four. That's the way they logged Beaver Creek.

JERRY: Yeah, they sure wrecked the forest up there, all right. You oughta see it now.

JIM: Yep, and a lot of it entirely unnecessary, Jerry. It's the same thing we're going through in a lot of places today. Even though men who know say we can get all the timber we need for this war without ruining the land a lot of our boys are giving their lives to defend...Well, it left all those folks stranded up there at Beaver Creek.





1. JERRY: A lot of 'em tried to stick it out there, though.

2. JIM: Yep. Tried to farm cutover land that wasn't any good for

3. farming. How'd you like to live day in and day out in an

4. environment like that? With nothing around as far as you

5. can see 'cept decaying stumps, and eroding fields.

6. BESS: Jim, what is it you think our Ladies Club could do to help

7. make Christmas a bit more cheerful for those folks? I know

8. you must have some idea, or you wouldn't have mentioned it.

9. JIM: Well, Bess, it's a simple thing on the surface of it. Some

10. day we hope to bring the forest back to Beaver Creek so that

11. it can be managed for a steady yield of timber, and that'll

12. mean steady jobs for folks around there. For the time being,

13. though, I reckon it's up to us to help keep those families

14. in good spirit. Like you say, they're fine folks, and proud.

15. I'm thinkin' maybe they'd turn down Christmas baskets but

16. they wouldn't turn down something else we always associate

17. with Christmas, especially if they had a part in getting it.

18. JERRY: What're you talking about, Jim?

19. JIM: Christmas trees, Jerry. Bright, gay Christmas trees. I'd

20. like to see a Christmas tree in every Beaver Creek home this

21. year even if we don't have one here in the Ranger Station or

22. if nobody else in town has one. And that goes for our

23. Community tree, too.

24. JERRY: Gosh, that's an idea. But how we gonna do it, Jim?

25. BESS: Yes, who's going to get the trees and all, Jim?





1. JIM: Well, there's an area in the forest not far from the  
2. settlement that ought to be thinned out, Bess. As for labor  
3. I'm thinking of those Beaver Creek youngsters; they'd be glad  
4. of the chance to do the work --- paid work. They could still  
5. cut enough trees to supply a good many town folks as well as  
6. provide what they'll need themselves for Beaver Creek.

7. JERRY: There's one hitch, Jim. Who's goin' to pay for the trees  
8. that're cut in the forest?

9. BESS: I'll answer that, Jerry. The Ladies Club will. That's  
10. what you were leading up to, wasn't it, Jim?

11. JIM: (CHUCKLING) You got me there, Bess. You reckon you Ladies  
12. could?

13. MARY: Indeed we could. Don't you see, Mr. Robbins? The Ladies  
14. Club could sell the extra trees here in Winding Creek.

15. JERRY: Sure, you could be the agents for the Beaver Creek kids,  
16. sort of...sell the trees and turn over the proceeds to the  
17. folks up there. Then they can have a Christmas tree in every  
18. home in Beaver Creek...and something under it that they earned  
19. themselves.

20. JIM: Hey, where you going, Bess?

21. BESS: (GOING OFF) To call the members of the Ladies Club. There's  
22. only eight more days till Christmas and...well....we still  
23. have some pre-Christmas work to do, don't we?

24. MUSICAL FINALE:  
25.





ANNOUNCER: Movie goers who see the new picture about the Forest Rangers currently being shown in theaters around the country will get an idea of what a tough proposition forest fires and fire fighting can be. Perhaps the lives of the forest rangers as depicted by Hollywood are not exactly like the lives of U. S. Forest Service rangers in every respect, but the pictures of forest fires are the real thing. The Forest Service hopes that they will be remembered next year, because forest fires are bad business, now, more than ever. Every grass and woods fire helps the enemy by hurting Uncle Sam....

This program is heard each week during the National Farm and Home Hour as a network presentation with the cooperation of the Forest Service, United States Department of Agriculture.... and is produced by Robert. B. White.

